

A DESCRIPTION OF SEVERAL
PIECES OF MECHANISM,

Invented by the SIEUR JACQUET DROZ, of the Chaux de Fond, in the
County of Neufchatel, Switzerland.

And which are now to be seen at the GREAT ROOM, No. 6, in
KING-STREET, COVENT-GARDEN.

First P I E C E.

THE first figure represents a girl of ten or twelve years of age, sitting
on a stool and playing on a harpsichord.

This Automaton, whose body, head, eyes, arms, hands and fingers
have various motions, all which appear natural, performs several airs in
two or three parts with great precision; the head has every natural motion,
and the eyes look indiscriminately on its hands, the music, and the specta-
tors; the body is flexible, and inclines sometimes to see the music nearer;
the bosom also rises and falls, to imitate respiration.

Second P I E C E

Presents a contrast of art and nature, an assemblage of rocks, parterres,
cottages, and pieces of architecture. This work immense by the multi-
tude and variety of the objects therein and its operations, is only four feet
and a half square, and about three feet in height.

In the forepart of this piece is an elegant parterre terminated by the
front of a building: farther back is a landscape in Swisserland sur-
rounded by rocks, behind which a sun rises, arrives at the meridian, and
sets exactly agreeable with the revolutions of the sun on our horizon, ac-
cording to the different seasons of the year.

The landscape interspersed with plants, bushes and some shrubs, represents
a cottage, mill, rivulet, and flocks feeding. The farther part is terminated
by a chain of craggy rocks, in which are caves and grottos, and on the
summits goats are seen feeding.

The pastoral part consists of a Shepherd and Shepherdess; sheep and
goats are seen feeding or heard bleating; a cow chewing the cud, a calf
sucking, and a dog guarding the sheep.

The action of this piece begins by a countryman coming out of his
cottage, mounted on an ass, he crosses the scene in that manner, passes the
bridge over the rivulet, and carries his corn to the mill: while he passes
before the flock, the shepherd's dog barks at him several times, and so
naturally that many dogs have been deceived by its voice. Soon after
the shepherd appears coming out of the cave in the rock, he stops, puts his
flute to his mouth, and plays some preludes, which an echo repeats; after-
wards he resumes his walk, and perceives the Shepherdess asleep near her
sheep, her head leaning on her arm; he approaches her and plays a tender
air. The Shepherdess awakes, sits up, looks at him, takes her guittar,
and

and joins in a duet with the Shepherd, till interrupted by the unexpected return of the countryman: the Shepherd thereupon retires into the Shepherdess's grotto, who immediately resumes her former attitude; at the same time the countryman is seen walking back to his cottage, driving before him the ass laden with flour.

The parterre is surrounded with a railing, and has in its enclosure a regular arrangement of vases, statues, jets-d'eau, and several orange-trees, on which are seen flowers in bud, which soon expand, and are at length succeeded by the fruit. The piece of architecture is also adorned with fine statues, two fountains which seem to play very naturally, and an aviary, where several birds fly about, and whistle with their natural notes. In the middle of the edifice is a portal, above which is a clock and bas-reliefs; at the entrance of the portal is seen a country girl playing on a dulcimer several minuets, which two young ladies dance with great regularity and grace.

The Third P I E C E.

The third figure represents a child sitting on a stool, drawing with a pencil on tablets.

This figure executes very neatly some small drawings, of which it first makes the outlines, observing which strokes should be strong, and which light; it afterwards shades them, and finally retouches and corrects them; it takes its hand off now and then, as if to get a better view of what it has done, and blows off the dust formed by the action of the pencil. The various motions of the eyes, arms, and hand imitate nature exactly.

Fourth P I E C E.

A figure representing a child of two years of age, seated on a stool, and writing at a desk.

This figure dips its pen in the ink, shakes out what is superfluous, and writes distinctly and correctly whatever the company think proper to dictate, without any person's touching it. It places the initial letters with propriety, and leaves a suitable space between the words it writes. When it has finished a line it passes on to the next, always observing the proper distance between the lines: while it writes, its eyes are fixed on its work, but as soon as it has finished a letter or a word, it casts a look at the copy, seeming to imitate it.

The time of viewing is from 12 to 1, from 1 to 2, from 2 to 3, and in the evening from 7 to 8, from 8 to 9, and from 9 to 10.

Mr. JACQUET DROZ, the inventor, will attend till 11 at night, in order to accommodate those ladies or gentlemen that may chuse to see this exhibition after 10 o'clock.

*** ADMITTANCE, FIVE SHILLINGS.

To be continued every day, (Sundays and Thursdays excepted.)